

Mr. JAMES ELLIOTT is authorized to receive and receipt for subscriptions and advertisements for the Daily and the Weekly National Era, in Cincinnati and vicinity.

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1854.

## SETTLEMENT OF KANSAS—EXCITEMENT IN THE WEST.

Considerable excitement prevails in one or two of the counties of Missouri bordering Kansas Territory, especially in Jackson county, occasioned by exaggerated reports of the plans of the Emigration Aid Society, lately organized in Massachusetts. The Association is an honest and a deserving one. Its object being to encourage and aid the settlement of poor, industrious, and respectable people in the new Territories lately organized. That such Associations have not hitherto been established in our Eastern States, both for their own benefit and for the good of their surplus population, is somewhat surprising. It is rather amusing to see the alarm this very reasonable movement has awakened among some of our ultra Pro-Slavery men. They imagine that the Emigrant Aid Society is about gathering together all the "rank Abolitionists" of the country, and precipitating an avalanche of them on Kansas and Nebraska! The Washington Sentinel begins to glow with the fire of chivalry, and we shall expect soon to see him mounted, a la Quixote, and riding full tilt against this new horde. Hear his trumpet voice:

"Now, if this rush is to be made by these hordes, designed as they are for an army of occupation, it is time for the South to make an effort to establish its power in these Territories. If fair for one, it is fair for the other. There are clans in the South as well as clans in the North. Let the pibroch sound over hill and valley, and true men will flock to the gathering. If the effort be to get in first, the South is the nearest, and the South has most at stake. Let her sons step over the line, and raise their banner over the virgin soil of Kansas!"

Now, we are inclined to think that our Abolition friends, who have worked the *Sentinel* up to such a pitch of daring, will prefer staying at home, and sounding their rams' horns about the great Bastille of Slavery, trusting the settlement of the new Territories to the hardy freemen, who know how to sling the axe and use the spade.

The alarm awakened by this incoherent Emigrant Aid Society would be ludicrous, but for the mischief we use that has been made of it, doubtless by cunning demagogues in Washington, to inflame the People of some of the western counties of Missouri. Missiles, we presume, have been sent to them, telling them that the men who resisted the surrender of Antany Burns, are organizing in squadrons, for the purpose of taking possession of Kansas, and running off from Jackson and Platte counties, all their slaves—and very likely a postscript has been added, hinting that it is with such men Col. Benton is co-operating!

We advise the good people of Missouri to keep cool this hot weather, and beware of being practiced upon. That Emigrants' Aid Society, unfortunately, no far exists only on paper. The only emigration we know anything about, is the spontaneous movement among certain portions of our population, who, whenever a new territory is opened for settlement, begin to wonder whether they could not better themselves by a change. The unprecedented excitement occasioned by the introduction and passage of the Nebraska Bill, and the singular prominence which the struggle has given to the two Territories, have doubtless stimulated the spirit of adventure among these classes of our population. The people now on their way to Kansas, are, like all other immigrants to new Territories, self-moved, self-directed, self-sustained, animated by such feelings as sent hundreds of thousands of adventurers to California, and have peopled Oregon so rapidly that it is already populous enough to become a State.

Meantime, as our readers may wish to know something of the groundless fears awakened by the arts of demagogues among some of the People of Missouri, we quote the resolutions of a meeting recently held at Independence, Jackson county, on the great thoroughfare of Western travel:

*Resolved*, That we, the citizens of Jackson county, in mass meeting assembled, do hereby endorse, re-affirm, and proclaim the justice and policy of the action and resolves of a portion of our fellow-citizens who recently convened at Westport, in this county, and that in order to effluinate and carry out the object of that meeting, to secure and guarantee the rights of Southern emigrants to the Territory of Kansas, the chairman of this meeting do appoint a Committee of Vigilance, whose duty it shall be to acquire full and reliable information of the progress of settlements in the new Territory of Kansas, and of any infringement, or danger of infringement, upon the rights of Southern settlers, and to take proper steps to prevent and redress the same.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Correspondence be also appointed, whose duty it shall be to embody, in the form of an address, all useful information concerning the advantages, situation, production, &c., of the Territory of Kansas, to be circulated among citizens of our own and other Southern States; and, further, to correspond freely by letter with all persons of these States who may be desirous of information upon this subject.

*Resolved*, That we further most earnestly call upon our fellow-citizens of Buchanan, Platte, Clay, and all border and Western counties of Missouri, to meet and organize, and to follow up their organization by action, that we may meet and repel the wars of fanaticism which threaten to break upon our border; and that we pledge ourselves to co-operate with them in all necessary measures for our common protection.

*Resolved*, That we recommended to all our fellow-citizens who have a will to remove to Kansas, and to all others who feel with them a common interest in the protection of their rights and property, to meet in general Convention at Fort Leavenworth, or some other suitable place in the Territory, and to arrange for their mutual and common protection against all interference with their rights."

The resolutions adopted by the meeting held at Westport, on the 21d of June, are as follows:

The preamble sets forth, that having received intelligence of the passage of the Kansas and Nebraska bill, rejecting the Missouri restriction, and opening the said Territory to settlement equally to all the people of the Union, and feeling a deep and lively interest, especially in the occupation of the border Territory of Kansas, and the passage of laws which shall protect emigrants from every portion of the country in the possession and enjoyment of

their property of whatever character; and having heard through the public papers that organizations are on foot in some of the Northern States, having for their object the colonization of the new Territories, with a view to exclude and drive from the said Territories emigration from the Southern States, and more particularly slave emigration from Missouri and Arkansas; and having also heard of a recent attempt of a gang of Free-Soilers, who held a meeting within this Territory and audaciously resolved that no slave property should be brought into the same; and being ourselves, many of us, determined to seek in Kansas our future homes, and to carry with us our property of every description which we think proper, and being determined to hold and enjoy the same in peace or by force, we hereby organize ourselves into a society of Missourians for mutual protection; therefore,

*Resolved*, That we invite all well disposed citizens, from wherever they may come, but more especially our fellow-citizens of the slaveholding States, to unite with us.

*Resolved*, That we will afford to each other mutual protection in claiming and holding lands in Kansas Territory; that we will not encroach upon the claims or rights of each other, nor will we allow any intruders to do the same; that until the country is surveyed, no claim shall be made nearer to any other than half a mile, securing to each settler a quarter section of land; and that we will protect and defend the claim of each and every individual of this organization, which may be staked off and designated by the claimant in good faith, and with a view to actual settlement.

*Resolved*, That we will carry with us into the new Territory of Kansas every species of property, including slaves, and that we will hold and enjoy the same; and that we will do so peacefully, and will deplore any necessity for resorting to violence in support of our just and lawful rights; yet, (in no spirit of bravado, and with the strongest wish for peace,) apprehensive of interference with our private and domestic concerns by certain organized bands who are to be precipitated upon us, we notify all such that our purpose is firm to enjoy all our rights, and to meet with the last argument all who shall attempt to us, and ourselves in the said Territory, to the detriment of the rights of the future State in accordance with those of our own, and thus guaranty for the future a good neighbor and a firm friend, united to us by the bond of interest."

Our correspondent, Mr. Mendenhall, who resides in Kansas, says that little enthusiasm was manifested by the audience, and he does not believe that any considerable number of the People of Missouri would sanction such a movement.

Of the meeting at Independence, the *Messenger*, published at that place, says:

"While we do not deny that the meeting, though not large, was respectable in point of number and character, we unhesitatingly affirm our conviction that the resolutions are not reflective of the opinions of the large number of our people. They are not such as, in our own judgment, are calculated to excite the passions, but, on the contrary, from their inflammatory character, and the speeches made by gentlemen in support of them, will have a tendency to produce discord and distrust amongst ourselves, and create an excitement abroad that will be subversive of the end sought to be accomplished."

We have no doubt that these proceedings have been instigated by certain managers in Washington, with the twofold object of stimulating slaveholders to migrate at once to Kansas, and of striking a blow at Col. Benton's political prospects; and, to accomplish this, the most ridiculously exaggerated accounts are circulated concerning an Association which as yet exists on paper only, and has not sent out a single emigrant.

Of course, these inconsiderate threats of violence cannot be carried into execution. When the hardy pioneers, from the States of the West, who are now on their way to Kansas, shall arrive at Independence, nobody will dream of disturbing them. The few thoughtless persons who have got up these mobocratic meetings, will think twice, for example, before they attempt to interfere with the seven hundred German naturalized emigrants who lately passed through Cincinnati, on their way to new homes in the Territories.

A few statistics concerning the counties which outside influences would array against free emigration, may be interesting in this connection.

In Jackson, the whole population in 1850 was 16,000, the slaves numbering but 2,969. The whole number of white males, of twenty and upwards, were 2,600. Of these, probably not more than 300 are interested in what is called slave property. We have no doubt these gentlemen can perform wonders; but they are not yet equal to the miracle of suddenly arresting the immense flood of emigration sweeping from Europe to America, from the East to the West, and which is already rolling over the Rocky Mountains.

The aggregate population of Jackson, Buchanan, Clay, and Platte, the border counties appealed to by these meetings, was, in 1850, 54,152, the slaves numbering 9,211. The free population was 44,941. Averaging six slaves to an owner, as he is styled, there would be 1,535 slaveholders, in a free population of 44,941! Well may our correspondent say, that "no very considerable number of the People of Missouri" will sanction the intemperate proceedings of these meetings.

## WHY "SLAVE CODES" ARE NECESSARY.

Negro slaves occasionally do very wicked things in the South; but this should not be wondered at, when we remember that, for doing very wicked things in this latitude, they are sold to the South. Such cases frequently occur. We were some time ago acquainted with one. It was that of a negro girl, who, in revenge for a blow given her by her mistress, poisoned to death the infant she had in charge. She was not punished by the law, but sold to the Southern traders, and has probably, ere this, poisoned the children of other parents.

We have read with feelings of deep sorrow, as well as horror, of the recent tragedy in Marshall county, Mississippi, in which a young and beloved wife was so inhumanly and cruelly dealt with and murdered, and in which the punishment of the guilty wretch who perpetrated the wrong was unnecessarily inflicted in an illegal and most revolting manner. But these are unavoidable incidents of the existence of an

institution for which the American people are responsible—for which each citizen is so far as he is concerned, individually responsible.

## DEADLY WEAPONS IN CONGRESS.

In the explanation made yesterday in the House of Representatives, it was admitted that deadly weapons had been brought by a member into that body. From this fact, and from other circumstances, we are led to infer that it is not an uncommon practice. It certainly speaks little for the civilization of the country. It is not fit that Legislators should carry into the halls of legislation, instruments of death concealed upon their persons. It is cowardly, barbarous, and lawless, an invasion of the privilege of a Legislature.

What freedom of speech or action can exist among bowie-knives and revolvers? And how can there be wise legislation without such freedom? The House has sufficient power for the protection of its members, and should use it. If an unarmed member should be suddenly assaulted, in the heat of passion, by a fellow member, for words spoken in debate, there is always power enough on hand to prevent injury, if deadly weapons are not used. No Representative can have the slightest excuse for carrying these, within the hall. Neither his honor nor his personal safety can require their use.

Where controversies arise, there can be no doubt of the mischievous effects of the custom. The member who is armed is tempted to arrogance of tone; his antagonist, who is made acquainted with the fact, is only embittered. A collision, under such circumstances, is naturally to be expected; and, if it occurs, the possession of a weapon just as naturally involves the use of it.

We cannot but think that the *morale* of the House would be improved by adopting the resolution of Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, with the amendment of his colleague, Mr. Brooke.

Mr. Orr proposed a new rule, as follows: "That if any member, in violation of the rules of the House, shall refuse to obey an order of the Speaker made in conformity therewith, it shall be the duty of the Speaker to order the member so offending into the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, to be dealt with as the House may direct."

Mr. Brooke gave notice that when his colleague should offer his amendment to the rules, he would move to add thereto the following:

"That any member who brings into this House a concealed weapon shall be expelled by a two-thirds vote."

[Loud cries of "good," "good!"]

We apprehend, however, that nothing will be done. This last outrageous transaction, like others that have preceded it, will be passed over, and Congress will continue, from time to time, to be disgraced by scenes of violence, until some fatal collision admonish it that action can be delayed no longer.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate, to-day, a memorial was presented by Mr. Rockwell, from nearly 2,000 of, chiefly, the conservative men of Massachusetts, asking the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law. Mr. Dixon proposed to discuss this memorial to-morrow. The more radical men of Massachusetts may come with less moderate demands! Mr. Seward introduced a bill to establish mail steamers, to connect California, the Sandwich Islands, Japan, and Shanghai, in China—which will be called up on Monday next. Citizens of Delaware came up by petition, in opposition to a reciprocal treaty with Canada; a bill granting the right of way, to connect Alexandria with Baltimore, by a railroad over the Long Bridge, and through this city, was postponed; a bill to make Madison, Indiana, a port of delivery, was passed; and Mr. Bell concluded his speech against the President's veto of the Indigent Insane bill.

In the House, Mr. Houston introduced a bill appropriating the millions asked by the President to make a further purchase of the territory of Mexico; more personal explanations were made (of a pacific nature, this time) and, in Committee, the general appropriation bill was further considered.

## SENATOR DOUGLAS.

We see it stated in several Northern and Western newspapers, that the Hon. S. A. Douglas, Senator for Mississippi in the United States Congress, was recently induced to change his plan of a journey westward, through fear of personal insult and violence at Chicago. We do not credit this statement. We do not know that he had formed such a plan; but we are confident, if he had done so, the reason assigned would have not detained him. Although conscious, as he must be, that his course in the Senate is condemned and reprobated by the people of Chicago, and of Illinois generally, he knows that people too well to believe they would take such means to manifest their feelings towards him. He will hereafter find, however, that a residence in Mississippi will be more conducive to his political advancement than in Illinois; and we presume, it will not be difficult for him to make the transition.

Among the sentimental humbugs of the day have we always allowed the scheme of African Colonization. Proceeding upon the ridiculous postulate that there are no internal or physical differences in mankind, whether white or black, we have ever regarded it as a fitting hook for the pendants of negrophilism and fanaticism, with which the South is infected, and have never looked upon it as having the slightest claim on Southern toleration, much less sympathy.—*Southside Democrat, Petersburg, Va.*

Well, if you think it is not well to send American negroes to Africa, what would you say to a scheme for bringing African negroes to the United States? If the Slavery of the negro race is a good thing, should we not have more of it? We will thank the *Democrat* for its views on this subject, keeping all "sentimental humbugs" (they must be queer bugs) out of view!

**FUGITIVE LAW.**—It is stated that United States Commissioner Carpenter has published a long communication in the *Cincinnati Gazette*, denying the constitutionality of that portion of the Fugitive Slave Law, making it the duty of Commissioners to issue warrants and hear cases. He says he has refused, and will continue to refuse, to issue warrants.

A physician in Baltimore on Wednesday night committed suicide; but he got drunk first.

## AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT.

The attention of our readers is invited to the calm and temperate Address of members of Congress who voted against the Kansas-Nebraska bill.

**THE FUNERAL OF A SLAVE.**—The Alabama *Journal*, describing the funeral of "a valuable negro man," who perished by a casualty, says: "He was buried on Sunday last, attended by an immense procession of slaves, in carriages and on foot. We have heard the number estimated at one thousand. We wish that Theodore Parker, Wendell Phillips, or the whole pack of Northern fanatics, could have seen it; we think they would have been practically given to their declaration of the servile and abject condition of that class of our population."

We remark, first, that carriages and negroes can often be spared to attend a funeral on a Sunday; secondly, that a "valuable" man, of any color, should not be valued as a slave; thirdly, if the condition of Slavery is not "servile and abject," we should like to know what it is; and, fourthly, if the writer really wishes the persons named could have seen the pageantry with which the poor slave was borne to his long home, why do so many of his fellow-citizens of the South (and he among them, perhaps) constantly threaten these persons with tar, feathers, hemp, bowie knives, and other pleasures peculiar to the regions of Slavery?

Rev. Dr. Wm. A. Smith, of Randolph Macon College, Virginia, promises to put forth an elaborate treatise on Slavery. He says, in a letter just published, that "the subject is capable of full defence on purely philosophical and Scriptural grounds." If he so believes, it is not his duty at once to become somebody's slave? Being a philosopher and a believer in Scripture, how can he refuse? That there are persons inferior to himself, does not settle the point that they should be the slaves and he the master, unless he can demonstrate that there are not persons superior to him also. Besides, Christianity teaches humility. Dr. Smith, to be consistent, and to prove his honesty, ought to be a slave.

Use chloride of lime freely, if the premises or vicinity of your house is impure. If bed-bugs annoy you, destroy them with corrosive sublimate, beaten up in the white of an egg, and puffed on the woodwork infested. If roaches abound, moisten and sweeten bread crumbs, or boiled potatoes, mixed lead with them, spread on sheets of paper, and scatter them about in the evening, to be gathered up in the morning. If rats or mice be the pests, use good traps. In poisoning them you may poison greater folks; and if you destroy them in this way, you create bad odors in the house. Flies should only be driven off, by so purifying your house as to make it unattractive to them.

In 1851, the newspapers and politicians of the country were industriously engaged in nominating candidates for the Presidency of the United States. The following is a list, though perhaps not full, of the names then passing the rounds of the press in this relation: Lewis Cass, W. Scott, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, W. O. Butler, Samuel Houston, S. A. Douglas, James Buchanan, D. S. Dickinson, Levi Woodbury, John E. Wool, Wm. H. Seward, T. H. Benton, I. P. Walker, John McLean, A. C. Dodge, Martin Van Buren, J. G. Birney, J. P. Hale, James Jones of Tennessee, Gen. Lane of Indiana, Com. Stockton, T. Corwin, and Millard Fillmore. Franklin Pierce was not among them.

An attempt made at Platte city, Mo. on the 5th of June, to re-unite the Benton and anti-Benton Democrats, proved, a dead failure, as we learn from the *Western Reporter*.

From the *Spartanburg* (S. Carolina) *Spartan*.

## THE PRICE OF A FUGITIVE SLAVE.

It has been estimated that the cost attending the recovery of the fugitive slave Burns, and his safe delivery into the hands of his master, will not fall short of thirty to fifty thousand dollars. When we take into the account the abuse and insults heaped upon his master, the imminent peril he incurred of losing his own life, and above all, the innocent blood that was sacrificed in the effort to recapture the slave, who will dare to estimate the cost? Yet it was this dear privilege, so reluctantly granted by the Northern members of Congress, this right allowed to the citizens of the South of jeopardizing their lives in the recovery of their property, over which the South rejoiced so loudly two years ago, and at which the North complained so bitterly. This was the only feature in the compromise of 1850 that contained the shadow of a concession to the South. While we are willing to admit that such praise is due the Mayor of Boston, and the officers engaged in quelling the late disturbance, for the energy and promptness they displayed in discharging their duty; and while we admit, too, that they were nobly sustained by the military companies which were called out, and by the sober, reflecting portion of the citizens, we are nevertheless forced to the conclusion that the people of this State, and not of Boston only, but of all New England, are resolved that the Fugitive Slave Law shall never be peaceably enforced. If the party who were so actively engaged in the attempted rescue of Burns was so insignificant, as some would have us believe, whence the necessity of calling out a large military force? Why were not the civil authorities sufficient to enforce the law? For our part, we were one of those who were unable to see much cause of rejoicing, upon the part of the South, on account of the passage of this law, because we were convinced that the effort to enforce it would always be attended with violent resistance; nor are we able to find in this case any cause to change our opinion.

They take more comprehensive views of these subjects in South Carolina than they do farther North. The *Spartan* is correct. The people of the North are not overpowered and subdued. They hate the Fugitive Slave Law, and its enforcement will ever be attended with difficulty, and we suppose, with danger. The Northern trading politicians, who attempt to sell the North, and give assurances of their ability to do so, are knaves and cheats. The South is never safe in trusting to them. They are the peddling, tinkering Yankees, who give New England a bad name in all sections of the country. Beware of them!

The Constitution of Buenos Ayres, just adopted, establishes the Roman Catholic religion as the religion of the State.—*Exchange*.

That that is the only Constitution—a strong one, but it will not make a strong people.

## ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

At a meeting of members of Congress who opposed the passage of the bill to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, held, pursuant to previous notice, the city of Washington, on the 20th day of June, 1854, the Hon. Solomon Foot, of Vermont, was called to the chair, and Daniel Mace, of Indiana, and Reuben E. Fenton, of New York, were appointed Secretaries.

A committee, appointed for the purpose, reported an Address to the People of the United States, which, having been discussed and amended, was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be published. It is as follows:

## To the People of the United States:

The eighth section of the act for the admission of Missouri into the Union, known as the Missouri Compromise Law, by which the introduction of Slavery into the regions now known as Kansas and Nebraska was forever prohibited, has been repealed. That law, which in 1820 quieted a controversy which menaced the Union, and upon which you have so long reposed, is obliterated from the statute book. We had no reason to expect any such proposition when we assembled here six months ago, nor did you expect it. No State, no citizen of any State, had demanded the repeal. It seems a duty we owe to the country to state the grounds upon which we have steadfastly, though ineffectually, opposed this alarming and dangerous act. You need not be told that the Slavery question lies at the bottom of it. As it was the slaveholding power that demanded the enactment of the Missouri Compromise, so it is the same power that has now demanded its abrogation. African Slavery was regarded and denounced as a great evil by the American Colonies, even before the Revolution; and those Colonies which are now slaveholding States were equally earnest in such remonstrances with those which are now free States. Colonial laws, framed to prevent the increase of Slavery, were vetoed by the King of Great Britain. This exercise of arbitrary power, to enlarge and perpetuate a system universally regarded as equally wrongful in itself and injurious to the Colonies, was one of the causes of the Revolution.

When the war was ended, there was an imperative necessity for the institution of Government in the then unoccupied Territories of the United States. In 1784, Jefferson proposed, and in 1787 the Continental Congress adopted, the Ordinance for the Government of the Territory lying northwest of the Ohio, by which it was declared that "there shall be neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for punishment of crime." The great and flourishing States since organized within that Territory, on the basis of that Ordinance, are enduring monuments of the wisdom of the statesmen of the Revolution. The foreign slave trade was regarded as the source of American Slavery, which, it was believed, would be dried up when the foreign trade should be closed. In adopting the Constitution, it was so universally anticipated that the foreign slave trade would be promptly prohibited, that all parties acquiesced in a stipulation postponing that measure until 1808. In 1808, the foreign slave trade was prohibited. Thus the source of Slavery was understood to be dried up, while the introduction of Slavery into the Territories was prohibited. The Slavery question, so far as it was a national one, was understood to be finally settled; and at the same time the States had already taken up, and were carrying forward, a system of gradual emancipation.

In 1803, Louisiana was acquired by purchase from France, and included what is now known as the States of Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, and Iowa, and the Territories known as Kansas and Nebraska. Slavery existed at the time in New Orleans and at St. Louis, and so this purchase resulted in bringing the Slavery question again before Congress.

In 1812, the region immediately surrounding New Orleans applied for admission into the Union, under the name of the State of Louisiana, with a Constitution tolerating Slavery. The new State was admitted, and the free States acquiesced. Eight years afterward the region connected with St. Louis demanded admission, under the name of the State of Missouri, with a Constitution tolerating Slavery. The free States reverted to the principle of 1787, and opposed the admission of Missouri, unless she would incorporate into her Constitution an inhibition of the further introduction of Slavery into the State. The slaveholding States insisted upon her unqualified admission. A controversy arose, which was sectional and embittered, and which, we are assured by contemporaneous history, seriously imperilled the Union. The statesmen of that day, in Congress, met the controversy by compromise. By the terms of this compromise, the free States assented to the admission of Missouri, with her slaveholding Constitution, while the slaveholding States, on their part, yielded the exclusion of Slavery in all the residue of the territory which lay north of 36 deg. 30 min., constituting the present Territories of Kansas and Nebraska. The slaveholding States accepted this compromise as a triumph, and the free States, after a little time, acquiesced in it, and have ever since left it undisturbed and unquestioned.

Arkansas, a part of the Territory of Louisiana which lay south of 36 deg. 30 min., in compliance with an implication which was contained in this compromise, was afterward admitted as a slaveholding State, and the free States acquiesced.

In 1819, Florida, a slaveholding province of Spain, was acquired. This province was afterwards admitted as a slaveholding State, and the free States again acquiesced. In 1845, Texas, an independent slaveholding State, was annexed, with a provision in the article of annexation for the subdivision of her territory into five States. The free States, although they regarded the annexation, with the probable increase of the number of slave States, with very great disfavor, nevertheless acquiesced again.

New Territories were acquired by the treaty of peace which closed the war with Mexico. The people of California formed a Constitution inhibiting Slavery, and applied for admission into the Union. Violent opposition was made by the slave States, and out of Congress, threatening the dissolution of the Union if California should be admitted. Proceeding on the ground of these alarms, Congress adopted an act, by which the terms of which were that ten millions of dollars of the people's money should be given to Texas, to induce her to relinquish a very doubtful claim upon an inconsiderable part of New Mexico; that New Mexico and Utah should be organized without an inhibition of Slavery, and that they should be afterwards admitted as slave or free States, as the people, when forming Constitutions, should determine; that the public slave lands in the District of Columbia should be abolished, without affecting the existence of Slavery in the District; and that new and rigorous provisions for the reception of fugitive slaves, of disputed constitutionality, should be adopted, and that on these conditions California should be admitted as a free State. Repugnant as this compromise was to the people of the free States, acquiescence was nevertheless practically obtained, by means of solemn assurances, made on behalf of the slaveholding States, that the compromise was and should be forever regarded as a final adjustment of the Slavery question, and of all the issues which could possibly arise out of it.

A new Congress convened in December, 1851. Representatives from the slave State demanded a renewed pledge of fidelity to this adjust-

ment, and it was granted by the House of Representatives, in the following terms:

*Resolved*, That we recognize the binding efficacy of the compromises of the Constitution, and believe it to be the intention of the people generally, as we hereby declare it to be ours individually, to abide such compromises, and to sustain the laws necessary to carry them out—the provisions for the delivery of fugitive slaves and the act of the last Congress for that purpose included; and that we deplore all further agitation of questions embraced in the acts of the last Congress known as the Compromise, and of questions generally connected with the institution of Slavery, as unnecessary, useless, and dangerous."

A few months subsequently, the Democratic National Convention met at Baltimore, and, assuming to speak the sentiments of the Democratic party, set forth in its platform—

"That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the Slavery question, under whatever shape or color the attempt may be made."

Soon afterwards, another National Convention assembled in the same city, and, assuming the right to declare the sentiments of the Whig party, said:

"We deplore all further agitation of the questions thus settled, as dangerous to our peace, and will discountenance all efforts to continue or renew such agitation, whenever, wherever, or however made."

The present Administration was elected on the principle of adhering to this compromise, and the President, referring to it in his inaugural speech, declared that the harmony which had been secured by it should not be disturbed during his term of office. The President, recurring to the same subject, renewed his pledge in his message to Congress at the beginning of the present session, in the following language:

"Notwithstanding differences of opinion and sentiment which then existed in relation to details and specific provisions, the acquiescence of distinguished citizens, whose devotion to the Union can never be doubted, has given renewed vigor to our institutions, and restored a sense of repose and security to the public mind throughout the Confederacy. That this repose is to suffer no shock during my official term, if I have the power to avert it, those who placed me here may justly assure."

Under these circumstances, the proposition to repeal the Missouri Compromise was suddenly and unexpectedly made by the same Committee on Territories which, only ten days before, had affirmed the sanctity of the Missouri Compromise, and declared the end of agitation in the following explicit and unmistakable language:

"Your committee do not feel themselves called upon to enter into a discussion of those questions which are the responsibility of the grave issues which produced the agitation, the sectional strife, and the fearful struggle of 1850. As Congress deemed it wise and prudent to refrain from deciding the matters in controversy then, either by affirming or repealing the Missouri law, or by an act declaratory of the true intent of the Constitution, and the extent of the protection afforded by it to slave property in the Territories, so your committee are prepared now to recommend a departure from the course pursued upon that memorable occasion, either by affirming or repealing the eighth section of the Missouri act, or by any act declaratory of the meaning of the Constitution in respect to the legal points in dispute."

The abrogation has been effected in pursuance of the demands of the Administration, and by means of its influence on Congress. In the House of Representatives, that body which had previously declared its responsibility to the people, the contest was more earnest than in the Senate, though it is due to justice and candor that it should be stated that it could not have been carried in either House without the votes of Representatives from the free States.

The minority resisted the attempt to arrest discussion upon this grave question; through a struggle of longer duration than any other known to Congressional history. An attempt was made to stigmatize that minority as "factious," and we fearfully declare that, throughout the contest, they resorted solely to the powers secured to them by the law and the rules of the House; and the passage of the measure through the House was effected only through a subversion of its rules by the majority, and the exercise of a power unprecedented in the annals of Congressional legislation.

The deed is done. It is done with a clear proclamation, by the Administration and by Congress, that the principle which it contains extends not only to Kansas and Nebraska, but to all the other Territories now belonging to the United States, and to all which may hereafter be acquired. It has been done unnecessarily and wantonly, because there was no pressure for the organization of Governments in Kansas and Nebraska, neither of which Territories contained one lawful inhabitant who was a citizen of the United States; and because there was not only no danger of discussion apprehended, but even no popular agitation of the question of Slavery. By this reckless measure, the free States have lost all the guarantees for freedom in the Territories contained in former compromises, while all the States, both slave and free, have lost the guarantees of harmony and union which those compromises afforded.

It seems painful to us that, fatal as the measure is in these respects, it is only a cover for broader propaganda of Slavery in the future. The object of the Administration, as we believe, and of many who represent the slave States, is to prepare the way for annexing Cuba, at whatever cost, and a like annexation of half a dozen of the States of Mexico, to be admitted also as slave States.

These acquisitions are to be made peaceably, if they can be purchased at the cost of hundreds of millions; if they cannot be made peaceably, then at the cost of war with Mexico, and with Spain, with England, and with France, and as the cost of an alliance with Russia, scarcely less repugnant. Unmistakable indications appear, also, of a purpose to annex the eastern part of San Domingo, and so to subjugate the whole island, restoring it to the dominion of Slavery. And this is to be followed up by an alliance with Brazil, and the extension of Slavery in the valley of the Amazon. It is for you to judge whether, when Slavery shall have made these additions to the United States, it will not demand unconditional submission on the part of the free States, and, failing in that demand, attempt a withdrawal of the slave States, and the organization of a separate Empire in the central region of the continent. From an act so unjust and wrong, full in itself, and fraught with consequences so fearful to the People, we appeal equally to the North and to the South, to the free States and to the slaveholding States themselves.

It is no time for exaggeration or for passion, and we therefore speak calmly of the past, and warn you, in sober seriousness, of the future. It would not become us, nor is it necessary, to suggest the measures which ought to be adopted in this great emergency. For ourselves, we are ready to do all that shall be in our power to restore the Missouri Compromise, and to execute such further measures as you in your wisdom shall command, and as may be necessary for the recovery of the ground lost to Freedom, and to present the further aggression of Slavery.

SOLOMON FOOT, Chairman.  
DANIEL MACE, Secretary.  
REUBEN E. FENTON, Secretary.

## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The following Message, yesterday communicated to the House of Representatives, was, with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee of Ways and Means:

WASHINGTON, JUNE 20, 1854.

## To the House of Representatives:

I have received information that the Government of Mexico has agreed to the several amendments proposed by the Senate to the treaty between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, signed on the 30th of December last, and has authorized its Envoy Extraordinary to this Government to exchange the ratifications thereof. The time within which the ratifications can be exchanged will expire on the 30th instant.

There is a provision in the treaty for the payment by the United States to Mexico of the sum of seven millions of dollars on the exchange of ratifications, and the further sum of three million dollars when the boundaries of the ceded territory shall be settled.

To be enabled to comply with the stipulation according to the terms of the treaty, relative to the payment therein mentioned, it will be necessary that Congress should make an appropriation of seven millions of dollars for that purpose, before the 30th instant, and also the further sum of three million dollars, to be paid when the boundaries shall be established.

I therefore respectfully request that these sums may be placed at the disposal of the Executive.

I herewith transmit to the House of Representatives a copy of the said treaty.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

An Artesian well has been completed at Frederick, Md. The depth is not stated, but the flow is said to be one hundred and fifty gallons per minute.

Our feelings towards the "spiritualists" partake of pity for their weakness, more than of contempt for their operations. They are deluded